

July 09, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

6725 '99 JUL 15 A11:25

RE: Docket No. 99D-0557

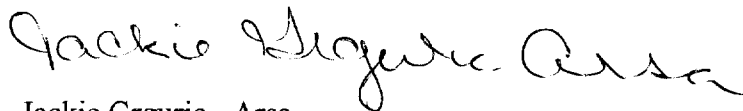
Dear Sir/Madame:

I am against any xenotransplant research. I feel that responsible health authorities should ban all xenotransplants, regardless of the species. There is a great threat of inter-species virus transmission. Pigs have been considered as the source animal of choice. But, there is no evidence that pigs are any safer than nonhuman primates. Pig viruses are just as dangerous as nonhuman primate viruses.

I feel that the U.S. should follow Europe's lead. In January 1999, the Council of Europe, representing 40 European countries, recommended a world-wide ban on xenotransplants. There are safer and more humane alternatives. Such as, promoting preventive medicine and increasing human organ donation rates.

I hope that the United States will take the lead on this issue and ban all such research.

Sincerely,

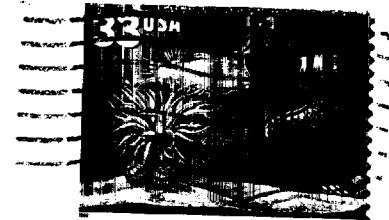


Jackie Grguric - Arsa

99D-0557

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